

In the Claims:

1. - 28. Cancelled

29. (Currently Amended) In a process of slaughtering poultry, which comprises a step wherein the poultry carcasses or parts thereof are washed with water, the improvement comprising introducing into said water in an amount effective to provide microbiocidal activity, a halogen-based microbiocide which as introduced is in the form of [[:]]

~~(I) an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of (a) bromine, chlorine, or bromine chloride, or any two or all three thereof, and (b) a water-soluble source of sulfamate anion; or~~

~~(II) (A) at least one 1,3-dihalo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the halogen atoms is a chlorine atom and the other is a chlorine or bromine atom, and in which each of the alkyl groups, independently, contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, or (B) an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of at least one 1,3-dihalo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the halogen atoms is a chlorine atom and the other is a chlorine or bromine atom, and in which each of the alkyl groups, independently, contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, or (C) both (A) and (B); or~~

~~(III) (D)~~

~~(i) at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the alkyl groups is a methyl group and the other alkyl group contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, or (E) (ii) an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the alkyl groups is a methyl group and the other alkyl group contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, or (F) (iii) both (i) and (ii). (D) and (E); or~~

~~(IV) any two or more of (I), (II), and (III);~~

30. - 33. Cancel

34. (Currently Amended) The improvement of Claim 29 wherein said microbiocide comprises ~~(M)~~ (i) at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin selected from the group consisting of 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin, 1,3-dibromo-5-ethyl-5-

methylhydantoin, 1,3-dibromo-5-n-propyl-5-methylhydantoin, and 1,3-dibromo-5-isobutyl-5-methylhydantoin, or ~~(N)~~ (ii) an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin selected from the group consisting of 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin, 1,3-dibromo-5-ethyl-5-methylhydantoin, 1,3-dibromo-5-n-propyl-5-methylhydantoin, and 1,3-dibromo-5-isobutyl-5-methylhydantoin, or (iii) both (i) and (ii). ~~(O)~~ both ~~(M)~~ and ~~(N)~~.

35. (Currently Amended) The improvement of Claim 29 wherein said microbiocide is ~~(P)~~ (i) 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin or ~~(Q)~~ (ii) an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin, or (iii) both (i) and (ii). ~~(P)~~ and ~~(Q)~~.

36. (Currently Amended) In a process of slaughtering poultry, which comprises a step wherein poultry carcasses or parts thereof are washed with water, the improvement comprising introducing into said water ~~in~~ in an amount effective to provide microbiocidal activity 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin in the form of solids or as a microbiocidal solution or slurry of 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin.

37. (Original) The improvement of any of Claims 34, or 35, or 36 wherein said carcasses or parts thereof to be washed have therein or thereon at least one of *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Shigella sonnei*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, and *Campylobacter jejuni*.

38. (Currently Amended) In a process of slaughtering poultry, which comprises a step wherein poultry carcasses or parts thereof are washed with water, the improvement comprising introducing into said water as a microbiocide at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin and/or an aqueous solution or slurry formed therewith, ~~in~~ in an amount effective to control at least one of *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Shigella sonnei*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, and *Campylobacter jejuni*, said at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin ~~having characterized in that~~ one of the alkyl groups is a methyl group and the other alkyl group contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms,

39. (Original) The improvement of Claim 38 wherein at least a portion of said 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin is introduced as 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin, and wherein one or more active bromine species are formed *in situ* in said water.

40. (Original) The improvement of Claim 38 wherein said microbiocide includes at least 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin and/or an aqueous solution or slurry formed therewith.

41. (New) In the processing of poultry, the improvement which comprises disinfecting carcasses and/or other parts of poultry resulting from such processing, with a halogen-based microbiocide which is an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the alkyl groups is a methyl group and the other alkyl group contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms.

42. (New) The improvement of Claim 41 wherein the microbiocide used comprises a microbiocidal amount of an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the alkyl groups is a methyl group and the other alkyl group contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms.

43. (New) The improvement of Claim 41 wherein the microbiocide used comprises a microbiocidal amount of an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of 1,3-dibromo-5-isobutyl-5-methylhydantoin, 1,3-dibromo-5-n-propyl-5-methylhydantoin, or 1,3-dibromo-5-ethyl-5-methylhydantoin, or of any two or all three thereof.

44. (New) The improvement of Claim 41 wherein the microbiocide used comprises a microbiocidal amount of an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of at least two of said 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoins in which one of them is 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin.

45. (New) The improvement of Claim 41 wherein the microbiocide used comprises a microbiocidal amount of an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin and of 1,3-dibromo-5-ethyl-5-methylhydantoin.

46. (New) The improvement of Claim 41 wherein the microbiocide used comprises a microbiocidal amount of an aqueous microbiocidal solution of one or more active halogen species, which solution is a derivative product in an aqueous medium of 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin.

47. (New) The improvement of any of Claims 41 to 46, both inclusive, wherein the carcasses and/or other parts of poultry resulting from such processing being disinfected has therein or thereon at least one of *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Salmonella typhimurim*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Campylobacter coli*, *Campylobacter lari*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterococcus faecium*, and *Staphylococcus aureus*.

48. (New) In the processing of poultry, the improvement which comprises disinfecting carcasses and/or other parts of poultry resulting from such processing, with a halogen-based microbiocide comprising an aqueous microbiocidal solution of at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the alkyl groups is a methyl group and the other alkyl group contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms.

49. (New) The improvement of Claim 48 wherein the microbiocide used in forming said aqueous microbiocidal solution is at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin in which one of the alkyl groups is a methyl group and the other alkyl group contains in the range of 1 to about 4 carbon atoms.

50. (New) The improvement of Claim 49 wherein said at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin is 1,3-dibromo-5-isobutyl-5-methylhydantoin, 1,3-dibromo-5-n-propyl-5-methylhydantoin, 1,3-dibromo-5-ethyl-5-methylhydantoin, or any two or all three thereof.

51. (New) The improvement of Claim 49 wherein said at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin is a mixture of at least two of said 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoins in which one of them is 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin.

52. (New) The improvement of Claim 49 wherein said at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin is a mixture of 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin and 1,3-dibromo-5-ethyl-5-methylhydantoin.

53. (New) The improvement of Claim 49 wherein said at least one 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dialkylhydantoin is 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantoin.

54. (New) The improvement of any of Claims 48 to 53, both inclusive, wherein the carcasses and/or other parts of poultry being disinfected in such processing has therein or thereon at least one of *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Salmonella typhimurim*, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Campylobacter coli*, *Campylobacter lari*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Enterococcus faecium*, and *Staphylococcus aureus*.